

September 25, 2018

Subject: Reinvestment of Re-Appropriated Prop 84 Funds in Planning Grants

Reporting Period: September 2018

Staff Lead: Louise Bedsworth

Recommended Action:

Direct staff to develop a request for proposals to award Sustainable Communities Planning Grants & Incentives Program planning grants in four areas.

Background

Using funds from Proposition 84, The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Action of 2006, the Department of Conservation administers the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentives Program (SCPGIP) on behalf of the Strategic Growth Council (SGC). SCPGIP grants fund planning efforts at the local level.

Staff is recommending that the Council invest re-appropriated Proposition 84 funds in planning grants directed specific planning activities.

Summary

Based on staff's engagement and work across the State and with state agency partners, we have identified four areas for investment that provide tremendous opportunities to advance planning practices that align with the State Planning Priorities (Government Code Section 65041.1) and State climate change goals. With these re-appropriated funds, SGC has the opportunity to support continued advances in planning that address important topics that have emerged and/or matured since the original SCPGIP awards.

Staff propose investment in the following four areas:

1) Innovative approaches to catalyze recovery and housing development following disaster

Proposed Funding Amount: \$150,000

Planning grant to support innovative approaches to catalyze housing production in a community affected by a recent disaster. This will include innovative financial and planning approaches that have the potential to be models for other communities in the State.

2) Integration of natural and working lands into General Plans

Proposed Funding Amount: \$50,000

Provide a planning grant to a city or county working to develop and integrate natural and working lands into its General Plan.

3) Application of innovative, jurisdictional-scale approaches to account for multiple benefits in planning

Proposed Funding Amount: \$100,000



New tools have been developed to support better accounting for the carbon emission implications and other ecological benefits associated with different land use scenarios. Staff recommends a planning grant to support a county government integrating and applying such a tool in its planning process.

4) Development of Regional Conservation Assessment

Proposed Funding Amount: \$50,000

SGC has invested resources in the development of several tools to support conservation and development planning in the San Joaquin Valley. Staff recommends a planning grant to synthesize the results of these efforts to develop a Regional Conservation Assessment for the San Joaquin Valley.

All awards will be granted through a competitive process. Eligible applicants will be consistent with previous rounds of the SCPGIP awards: councils of government, metropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation agencies, cities, counties, or joint power authorities. Priority will be given to projects that can get started immediately or that augment a project already underway and that leverage existing activities and investments.

With Council approval, staff will work with the Department of Conservation to develop a request for proposals (RFP) and administer the grants.

Proposed Next Steps

| Timing | Activity |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Late September – early October 2018 | Work with Department of Conservation to develop RFP |
| Mid-October 2018 | Release RFP |
| Early November 2018 | Application deadline |
| Mid- to late-November 2018 | Application review |
| December 2018 | Recommend awards |

